

# **Your Day, Your Way!**

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**An Overview of the SB 1270 Stakeholder Process and Report on Expanding Opportunities and Choice in California's Day Program Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities**

**Prepared by the California State Council on Developmental Disabilities with support from the Department of Developmental Services for**

**Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and the California State Legislature**

**May 2007**

# Complete Report Available Online

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- <http://www.scdd.ca.gov/SB1270.htm>
- **Update on Council activities will be available soon**

# The Back Story of S.B. 1270

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- Area Boards 1, 2, and 9 and their respective Regional Centers (Redwood Coast, Far Northern, and Tri Counties) were implementing best practices in employment and community integration.
- These Area Boards, Regional Centers, the State Council and others discussed what it would take to launch a statewide effort with the staff of State Senator Wes Chesbro.
- Peggy Collins drafted the SB 1270 legislation.
- The law directed the State Council (with support from D.D.S.), to gather information from stakeholders statewide and write a report with recommendations by May 1, 2007.

# Report and Recommendations

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- The legislation also stated that the report should support the following goals:
  - Expand peoples' opportunities in social, recreational and volunteer activities.
  - Expand work opportunities in the community.
  - Help make government jobs more open to people with disabilities.
  - Increase the use of creative ideas like vouchers, and self-directed services.
  - Look at successful models in California and other states.
  - Find ways to help make things work better by making some changes to regulations and funding.

# Stakeholder Process

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- The State Council brought together a diverse group of more than 110 stake holders from across the State.
- These individuals worked more than 2,700 hours across three months to create a vision of the future and strategies on how to get there.
- Those ideas were reviewed, and revised in more than 39 local grass roots meetings with an additional 300 participants.
- About 325 people participated in a California Disability Community Action Network Townhall Telemeeting.
- Finally, the State Council and Area Boards posted an online survey which provided about 100 responses.

# Consumer Involvement

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- At each statewide meeting, individuals with developmental disabilities played a major role.
- A meeting was held the day before to support individuals in understanding the agenda and preparing their input.
- In order to ensure their voice, consumers were asked to provide input first by small group facilitators.
- The information developed for these meetings was also used in the general community meetings conducted by Area Boards and Regional Centers.
- A brief DVD regarding the recommendations and developed in accessible language was produced and will be shown at the end of this presentation.

# Core Values

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- On January 9<sup>th</sup> 2007, in Sacramento, the first stakeholder meeting was convened.
- At that meeting, stakeholders were asked to share their hopes and dreams.
- The major themes from those discussions are the core values reflected in the final recommendations.

# Core Values

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- **Choice.** Individuals choose how they want to participate in their community and those who want to work, have a job they choose.
- **Flexibility.** There is a system of support for individuals who want to participate in their communities and who want to work.
- **Benefits.** Individuals understand their employment and health benefits.
- **Innovation.** Good ideas are rewarded and shared.
- **Training and Education.** People who are paid for their support are well trained and make a living wage with benefits.
- **Community Education and Outreach.** Communities understand that people with developmental disabilities are good friends, neighbors, citizens, and fellow workers.

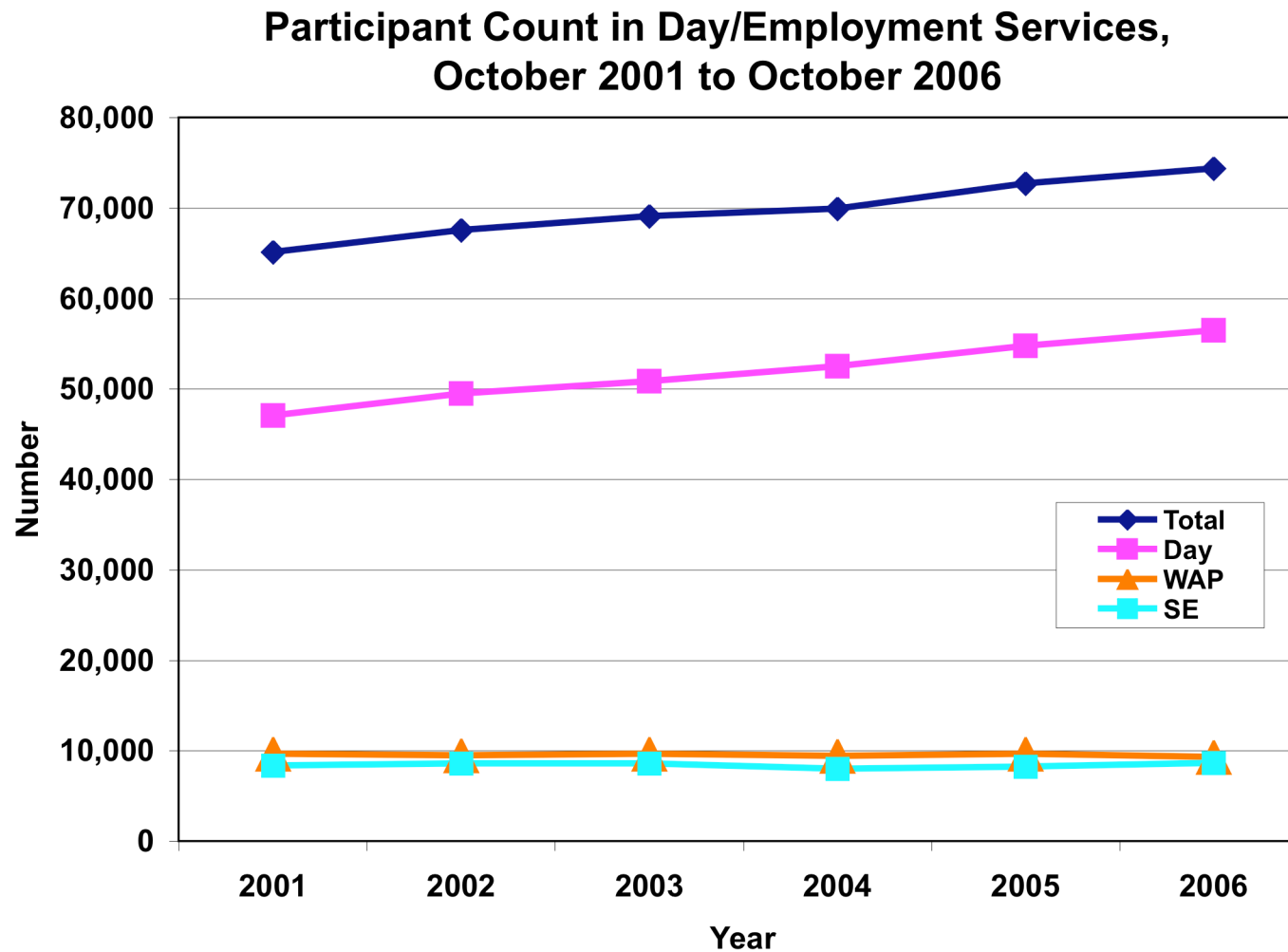


# What are Day Programs?

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- Title 17 states *"community-based day programs"* means those programs which provide services to individuals on an hourly or daily basis, but less than a 24-hour basis in the community rather than at a developmental center. Only the following types of services are community-based day programs: activity centers, adult development centers, behavior management programs, independent living programs, infant developmental programs and social recreation programs.
- In the SB 1270 process, the term came to be defined as non-residential services and supports.
- Data regarding non-residential service and supports expenditures, trends and analysis can be found in the complete report.

# Day/Employment Service Growth 2001-2006



# Initiatives, Policies and Practices from Other States

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- The Legislature also required the Council to look at other states.
- What we found were examples that might support efforts for innovation and change in California.
- Here is a sample from the report and there are certainly dozens more as well.

# Florida 5-Year Employment Initiative

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- In 2004, the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) implemented a 5-Year Employment Initiative for people with developmental disabilities.
- The goal of the initiative is that at least 50 percent of adults (18-55) receiving APD-funded day or employment services, will achieve community employment by 2009.
- The initiative is part of a larger strategy to greatly expand community-based employment options and the development of self-employment opportunities.
- Stakeholders have clearly stated the need and expectation for people with developmental disabilities to receive the supports and services necessary to achieve and maintain employment in the competitive workforce.

# Washington's Working Age Adult Policy

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- In July 2004, the State of Washington implemented a policy to provide working age adults with developmental disabilities the supports needed to achieve gainful employment.
- It establishes employment supports as the primary use of employment/day program funds for working age (21 to 62) adults. Employment is defined as that which reflects achievement of or progress towards a living wage in a typical community setting.
- If individuals of working age do not want to pursue or maintain gainful employment, then the authorization of county services will be discontinued and information about generic community services will be provided.

# Vermont Closes Sheltered Workshops

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- Vermont closed its last sheltered workshop for individuals with developmental disabilities in 2003.
- With the conversion of sheltered workshops into individualized supports, services were tailored for individuals and most received one-on-one day supports for employment and/or other day activities.
- Vermont used three main strategies to complete this conversion:
  - Keep a clear goal in mind of providing individualized day supports to everyone receiving services.
  - Approach the work in stages by first ending new placements and then converting workshops to community-based options.
  - Maintain open communication by involving stakeholders in order to address concerns as they arise.

# Retooling Employment Options in Illinois

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- The Illinois State Council is developing a Blueprint for Illinois of strategies and approaches to overcoming barriers to shifting from segregated sheltered workshops and developmental training programs to individually supported employment models in integrated environments for people with developmental disabilities.
- This is a Blueprint for organizational change and increasing opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to achieve their desires in the area of employment.
- The Council wants a plan for Illinois that explores incentives to shifting to an integrated approach and the disincentives that exist against making such a shift.

# Top States in Integrated Employment

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- The Institute on Community Integration reported on a study of thirteen states considered to be high performers in integrated employment.
- Most were small states (e.g., Maine, Vermont), but there were some large states as well (e.g., Florida, Ohio).
- The 2003 report outlined the common characteristics of the thirteen. The seven themes that emerged were:
  - Clearly defined goals and data collection;
  - Strong agency leadership;
  - Interagency collaboration;
  - Ongoing training and outreach;
  - Communication through relationships;
  - Local control; and
  - Flexibility and respect for innovation.



# Virginia State Employment Initiative

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- In 2007, Virginia announced a two-year grant to promote public-private partnerships that will result in the employment of at least 20 Virginians with disabilities by state government.
- The grant stipulates that at least half will be individuals with developmental disabilities.
- The initiative also includes training for rehabilitation professionals to develop more effective partnerships with private-sector staffing organizations that will increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

# Innovation in California

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- The Legislature required the Council to look at innovative nonresidential services and supports in California.
- What we found were a number of examples of innovation in choice and self-direction, employment, social and recreation activities, and transportation.
- All of these innovations have been created using the current system of vendorization, laws, and regulations.
- Here is a sample from the report and there are certainly dozens more as well.

# San Diego People First's IPP Buddies

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- IPP Buddies are specially trained San Diego People First members.
- IPP Buddies help self-advocates organize information; identify wants, needs and dreams; and role-play to give the self-advocate greater confidence.
- The buddy, at the request of the self-advocate, attends IPP meetings in a support capacity and provides follow up as well.
- There is no charge and it is a confidential service.

# Examples from Self-Determination Pilots

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- Information from the SD pilots provides numerous examples of individualized, innovative, and integrated employment, social and recreational services and supports.
- In the area of employment, some individuals started their own businesses, for example, disc jockey, house cleaning, home repair, window washing, private transportation, bird breeding, hunting and fishing guide.
- Social and recreation supports have included horseback riding, snow skiing, gym and weight group memberships, and weight training.

# Individual Development Accounts

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- Kern Regional Center (KRC) recently implemented an Individual Development Account (IDA) program that allows individuals to save money without affecting their SSI benefits.
- After achieving a savings goal (maximum of \$2,000) the individual also gets the accrued interest on savings plus a match for each dollar saved from a community partner bank.
- In the KRC program, it's a three-dollar match for every dollar saved. Monies must be used to buy a house, go to school or start a business.

# Self-Employment Incubator in the Far Northern Area

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- Vendored a self-employment support service.
- The service includes a Business Consultant and a Development Committee who help interested individuals complete feasibility studies for new business ideas.
- In addition to business feasibility, a review of current individual benefits is also completed.
- If the business idea is a viable one, a business plan is written and customized support is provided to help the individual start-up and maintain the business.
- Examples include: mobile wild bird feeder; shopping services; baker; hand painted t-shirts; dog treats; balloon boutique; worm grower; and, wheelchair repair.

# Coby's Gift Shop

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- Coby is an entrepreneur who has opened his own gift shop in the Bakersfield Heart Hospital. The store sells candy, and gift items to hospital staff and the families of patients.
- Kern Regional Center bought the kiosk for Coby, and he's paying off the loan with profits from the business.
- Coby rides a bus to work in the morning and opens up shop himself.
- He has a business coach from Goodwill Industries who helps him keep his business on track.
- He learned to use a cash register and help customers at the All Star Café.

# Micro-Enterprise Development Project

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- With a State Council grant, the project will support at least 25 individuals with developmental disabilities to start their own small businesses (micro enterprises).
- It will also create a cadre of six provider organizations to develop the capacity to assist these individuals and others to start and maintain their own small businesses.
- The six provider agencies are: Jay Nolan Community Services, Arc Ventura County, Alpha Resource Center, People Creating Success, Inc., Work Training Program and Easter Seals (TCRC area).



# Communications @ Ease

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- C@E designs communication boards. The four employees of the company currently own it. They hope to become self-sustaining.
- Received a micro enterprise grant from UPS to purchase a color printer.
- Several employees have developed PASS plans to help with start-up expenses.
- At present, the CP Center of the Bay Area provides a start-up loan, space, and support staff through its day program. It's become an business incubator for other self-employment ventures.

# Puppetry Is A Passion and An Income

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- Dusty Dutton always wanted to be an entertainer.
- In 2006, she started her own puppetry business called Dusty's Puppets.
- The business was started with help from an extended circle of support who helped complete a feasibility study and business plan.
- Initial startup funding provided by Dusty via a PASS Plan.
- Potential effects on her SSI, SSDI, IHSS, Section 8, and MediCal were studied with help from the benefits counselor.
- In the first year, Dusty's Puppets met the goals of her business plan with income from puppet shows, retail sale of puppets, and public speaking.

# White Out

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- Kyle White is the sole employee of *WHITE Out!*, a mobile paper shredding business started in 2001.
- DR paid for a feasibility study, business plan, start-up costs, and job coaching.
- Kyle travels to offices (using public transportation) with his portable shredder. The shredded material is re-used.
- He has help about 1.5 hours per week for scheduling, contacts, buying supplies, etc. The business pays for equipment, supplies, Chamber dues, bus license, taxes etc.

# All Star Café

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- Kern Regional Center sponsored the establishment of the All Star Café.
- It employs several individuals with the aim of helping them spin out into a variety of jobs or to start their own businesses.
- The Café is managed by someone who also happens to use regional center services.
- Three former employees have moved on to stable jobs elsewhere in the community.

# The Peer Mentor Lifestyle Coach Agency (PMLCA)

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- A non-profit organization (Westside Regional Center area) that specializes in training individuals with developmental disabilities to serve as peer mentors.
- The peer mentors are paid employees whose role is to provide independent living support, enhance socialization and facilitate healthy lifestyle changes for their peers.
- Mentors will complete a 20-week training program prior to working with an assigned peer.
- The training curriculum consist of training in mentoring, active listening and communication, motivation and encouragement, public speaking, socialization, support skills, community systems navigation, independent living skills and healthy lifestyle.

# Arc's Inclusive Senior Services

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- In 2006, the Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County developed a new service option for active seniors who want to retire from day, workshop or employment services.
- Open to seniors 50 years or older who want to participate in existing senior options in local communities.
- Attendance is not required, but is higher than many other programs. A monthly calendar outlines activities, locations and costs associated with events.

# Inclusive Recreation and Adapted Services in Davis

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- Since 1992, the City of Davis offers a full range of recreation experiences for people with disabilities ranging in age from infants to seniors.
- *Alternative Recreation* activities are focused on local outings and day trips and additional assistance is built into activities and supplemented as needed.
- Support services for individuals who participate in *Inclusive Recreation*, are most often provided by a recreation coach or natural supports.
- At present, the approximate budget for *Alternative Recreation* is about \$150,000 and the costs for *Inclusive Recreation* about \$12,000 per year. In the past five years or so, the majority of funding has been covered through a *Community Development Block Grant*.

# Redwood City Parks and Recreation

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- In 2005, the Redwood City received a grant from the State Council to launch a Community Inclusion Initiative Plan.
- A countywide Recreation Service Guide provides a one-stop shop reference to recreation services specifically for people with disabilities.
- The initiative includes training for recreation leaders to assist with inclusion practices.
- Includes a mentorship program that pairs local community members to individuals with special needs in mainstream recreation programs.



# Theatre Arts in Bakersfield

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- Kern Regional Center has developed a working relationship with The Spotlight Theatre, a theater group in Bakersfield.
- They offer classes that develop skill sets in several areas of theatrical production.
- Upon completion of the classes, participants can choose to be involved in theatrical productions (which include individuals without disabilities).
- The goal is participation in regular Spotlight productions as well as productions of other theatrical groups in town.

# San Diego County's North County Transit District (NCTD)

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- NCTD has developed several initiatives.
- For example, the vision of Full Access & Coordinated Transportation (FACT) is “that all people in San Diego County will have full mobility through accessible transportation.” FACT is working to begin a pilot project in centralized dispatching as a part of that vision.
- The NCTD also funds a mobility and travel training program. In 2006, more than 240 participants took the travel-training course and 180 went on a customized day-trip to learn how to navigate the bus and train system.

# Taft College

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- The Transition to Independent Living Program is a post-secondary experience for developmentally disabled adults emphasizing learning independent living skills.
- Students participate in the live-in program an average of 22 months.
- Staff works with each student to establish realistic long-range and short-range goals. Instruction is offered in the following areas: meal preparation, money management, shopping, housekeeping, use of appliances, safety, communication, transportation, personal care, and interpersonal relationships.

# Pathways at UCLA

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- Pathways is a two-year certificate program developed through the UCLA Extension Program.
- Students have a structured class schedule during the first year, but are able to pick their own classes for the second year.
- Pathways emphasize the importance of developing social skills.
- Students are strongly encouraged to live in Westwood apartments with fellow classmates to further reinforce the skills they are taught in class.

# Point of Transition

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- Designed to improve the collaboration between the Department of Rehabilitation, Regional Centers, and adult service providers. The desired outcome is a seamless transition for students with severe disabilities from school to adult life.
- This is accomplished by matching a student with Supported Employment agency to work with the student the last 9 months of school, develop a permanent job, and let the school staff help build a schedule of non-work activities around that real job.

# Bridges to Youth Self-Sufficiency

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- Funded by the SSA, *Bridges to Youth Self-Sufficiency* (located in 7 school districts) is dedicated to informing and motivating young people (14-25) with disabilities and their families about work, the effects on benefits and the availability of current work incentives.
- The goal is to assist youth with the transition to work and adult life, and to help them maximize their economic independence and achieve greater self-sufficiency.
- Staff at the seven sites include a benefits planner and a service coordinator.

# Goals, Recommendations, and Strategies

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- Based on the themes developed by the Stakeholder Workgroup, 18 recommendations were drafted for review.
- Feedback from the workgroup resulted in a set of 4 draft goals and 10 recommendations and strategies grouped.
- These recommendations and strategies were again revised based on feedback from stakeholders throughout the State.
- First, the Executive Summary DVD developed for the State Council.

## **Recommendation #1: Make sure people with developmental disabilities and families get information about integrated employment, community participation, work and health benefits at their IPP meeting.**

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Strategy #1.1 Options for integrated employment, community participation, and benefits planning are included in the Individual Program Planning (IPP) process by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #1.2 Consistent with the Workforce Inclusion Act (AB 925) and the efforts of the Governor's Committee, the Council recommends adding a benefits planner position to the Regional Center core staffing formula by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #1.3 Advocate for change in Community Care Licensing (CCL) regulations, policy and practice to enhance flexibility in services to allow persons with developmental disabilities access to integrated community employment options.



**Recommendation #2: People have their own self-directed service budgets, decide on the kinds of services they want, and buy their services.**

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Strategy #2 Complete the Self-Directed Services Waiver and implement the self-directed services program in California by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #3: The State Council will ask state agencies like DDS, DOR and DOE to put funding together to help people with developmental disabilities and their families figure out what to do after high school.**

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Strategy #3.1 State agencies will jointly encourage the replication of adult transition workgroups throughout the State by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #3.2 Develop an Interagency, Cooperative Transition and Employment Unit at DDS by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #3.3 Strengthen interagency transition planning by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #3.4 Additional positions for a transition specialist and peer advocate in DDS funded Family Resource Centers (FRC) by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #3.5 Expand access to and opportunities for postsecondary education by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #3.6 A legislative remedy to remove disincentives to establish postsecondary programs by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #4: The State Council will work with its State Public Agency partners and all employers to hire more people with disabilities.**

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Strategy #4.1 Establish an Employment Initiative and Community Participation Advisory and Accountability Council by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. The initiative would also include legislation that establishes a five million dollar fund to be used for a dollar-for-dollar State match to funding provided by public and private agencies and organizations.

Strategy #4.2 Develop a Statewide Plan to Increase Public Sector Employment by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #4.3 Develop an Incentive for Public Agency Employment by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #4.4 Expand Incentives to Increase Private Sector Employment by June July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #5: Help individuals who have good ideas about work/job services or community services and people with developmental disabilities who want to start their own business.**

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Strategy #5.1 Fund Pilot Programs that Test Innovative Employment, Education, and Community Participation Services and Supports by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #5.2 Provide financial and technical support for self-employment, micro-enterprise and entrepreneurship by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #5.3 Support AB 816 and SB 446 if amended to allow developmental service agencies to apply for funding grants.

Strategy #5.4 Support for changing Department of Rehabilitation service codes.

## **Recommendation #6: Make sure support staff get the training they need to do a good job by putting together good trainers from across the state.**

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Strategy #6.1 Develop a statewide Workforce Training and Education Collaborative by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #6.2 Support a legislative appropriation for a wage pass through for direct support professionals by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #7: Get the word out about people with developmental disabilities who work and are involved in their communities.**

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Strategy #7 Establish a collaborative, statewide media campaign regarding employment and community participation for people with disabilities by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #8: For people who work and get SSI, let them keep more of the money they earn and health benefits.**

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Strategy #8 Develop a request to the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for a ten year “hold harmless” statewide demonstration for CA SSI recipients and/or SSDI beneficiaries by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

## **Recommendation #9: Let Regional Centers pay for services that help people find and keep jobs and get out in the community to do things like everyone else.**

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Strategy #9.1 Develop a vendor category titled Integrated Work and Community Services by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Strategy #9.2 Pursue changes in purchase-of-service, vendorization, and program design to expand employment and community participation options by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Strategy #9.3 Implement additional statutory, regulatory and/or policy changes to increase local capacity for providing individuals with more opportunities for integrated employment and community participation.

Strategy #9.4 Commission a report to be completed examining the impact of reducing or eliminating the use of sub-minimum wages paid.

Strategy #9.5 Establish a State Department of Coordination for Human Services Transportation by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.



## **Recommendation #10. Keep track of the work/employment situation of people with developmental disabilities and how they are involved in social and recreational activities in their communities.**

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Strategy #10.1 Reconvene the SB 1270 workgroup to develop core components of a Statewide Tracking System of Employment and Community Participation Demographics and Outcomes by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Strategy #10.2 Implement a Statewide Tracking System of Employment and Community Participation Demographics and Outcomes by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

Strategy #10.3 Implement the Regional Center performance measure regarding employment and community participation by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

# Return on Investment

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- While the timelines for goals, recommendations, and strategies are energetic, the Council expects that it will take five or more years to fully implement them.
- If averaged over five years, the resources needed for implementation would be approximately five million per year.
- The return on that investment will be a significant increase in the number of Californians with developmental disabilities who are productive, tax paying, more self-sufficient, and more involved in their communities.

# Update on the State Council's S.B. 1270 Report

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## Recommendation #1: Make sure people with developmental disabilities and families get information about integrated employment, community participation, work and health benefits at their IPP meeting.

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- Initiated discussions with the Legislature about adding language to the Lanterman Act to strengthen the IPP process. Suggestions include language that outlines discussions by the IPP team about employment options, community participation, benefits, and transition (as needed).
- Meeting with World Institute on Disability (WID) to consider developing legislation to pilot a phase-in of benefits counselors as regional center staff members.
- Working with WID to develop ways to market the free, online Disability Benefits 101 Calculator to individuals with developmental disabilities, families, and support teams.

## Recommendation #2: People have their own self-directed service budgets, decide on the kinds of services they want, and buy their services.

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- Met with the Department of Developmental Services to collaborate on the implementation of the Self-Directed Services Waiver now set for roll-out in 2008.
- Area Boards continue to work with the Self-Determination pilots to help bring continuity to the statewide waiver transition.

Recommendation #3: The State Council will ask state agencies like DDS, DOR and DOE to put funding together to help people with developmental disabilities and their families figure out what to do after high school.

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- Since the New Day Conference and the SB 1270 report, several Area Boards and Regional Centers have developed a local transition task force to work on the challenging issues faced by individuals and their families as they move from school to the realities of adult living and working.
- The Council has met with the California Consortium for Postsecondary Education Opportunities for People with Developmental Disabilities to discuss strategies for expanding access to postsecondary education and training.

## Recommendation #4: The State Council will work with its State Public Agency partners and all employers to hire more people with disabilities.

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- Met with the Governor's Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities (Governor's Committee) to discuss collaborative strategies.
- The Council will participate in activities that highlight transition and career development as part of National Disability Employment Awareness Month in October.
- Hiring individuals with disabilities has become a priority for the Council in filling current available positions.
- Discussions with the Governor's Office on supporting efforts to hold a public/private sector roundtable on employment for people with disabilities in the Spring of 2008.

## Recommendation #5: Help individuals who have good ideas about work/job services or community services and people with developmental disabilities who want to start their own business.

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- Supported presentation by individuals in self-employment to Partners in Policy Making training.
- Participating in J. Nolan conference on self-employment; focused on strategies for service providers who support individuals who are self-employed.
- Met with the California Association for Microenterprise Opportunity to collaborate on strategies for promoting self-employment for people with disabilities.
- The Council is developing strategies to support self-employment opportunities statewide.



## Recommendation #6: Make sure support staff get the training they need to do a good job by putting together good trainers from across the state.

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- Financial support for the online College of Direct Support currently operated by Arc California.
- Following current legislation written to develop a training pilot program to improve the use of recognized training resources for direct support workers.
- The Council is exploring opportunities to include individuals with developmental disabilities and family members in training that focuses on innovative services.

## Recommendation #7: Get the word out about people with developmental disabilities who work and are involved in their communities.

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- Met with CHIIP and the Governor's Committee to coordinate efforts to produce and disseminate statewide media.
- Collaborating with PRIDE Industries, CHIIP, and the Governor's Committee to cosponsor media events in conjunction with National Disability Awareness Month.
- Working with SB 1270 Consumer Advisory Group on additional media production.
- SB 1270 DVD has been shown throughout the State; the Council is considering a strategy for distribution to local cable stations.
- The Council and Area Boards continue to produce an e-letter that contains media information about people with developmental disabilities.

Recommendation #8: For people who work and get SSI, let them keep more of the money they earn and health benefits.

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- After initial discussions with WID and other organizational partners, the Council will be initiating a forum to discuss the possibility of developing a statewide waiver.

Recommendation #9: Let Regional Centers pay for services that help people find and keep jobs and get out in the community to do things like everyone else.

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- The Council has initiated discussions the California Rehabilitation Association on strategies to expand integrated work opportunities.
- Met with San Diego transportation advocates to discuss statewide strategies for expanding accessible transit.

## Recommendation #10. Keep track of the work/employment situation of people with developmental disabilities and how they are involved in social and recreational activities in their communities.

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- Working with the Department of Developmental Services and other state agency partners (for example, the Department of Rehabilitation, Employment Development Department, Governor's Committee) on options for gathering statewide data on employment and community participation.
- The Council has become a member of a statewide coalition of agencies working with the State Employment Leadership Network (SELN is a national technical assistance network) to develop ways to track employment, and social/recreation opportunities statewide.

# Next Steps

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- The Council presented the SB 1270 Report at a recent roundtable meeting regarding an update of the Lanterman Act. The meeting was hosted by Assemblyman Jim Beall, Chair of the Human Services Committee. The purpose of the update is to focus on adding language to the Act that more fully supports choice in community employment, social and recreation opportunities.
- In November, the Council will testify at a hearing of the Assembly Human Services Committee on legislative proposals related to the SB 1270 Report.